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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 26 February 2021 1:30 PM
To: Task Force
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Food Delivery Rider guidance
Attachments: Covid and vulnerable societies published.pdf

Good Afternoon

Further to the TWU and my associated submission I would like to make one further additional observation.

As far as I can see the Guide only makes one reference to COVID/infectious disease and that is in relation to the duties of Food Outlets. In my view this is deficient because

1. It is entirely possible for COVID-19 to be a hazard if drivers get infected in circumstances unrelated to the food outlet and therefore I believe platform operators need to have some responsibility in the way they shape their operations, have a COVID-safe management plan and provide PPE etc to delivery workers.
2. There is seemingly no recognition of the additional mental anguish this puts on delivery workers
3. It is a strong argument for delivery workers to have some form of sick leave entitlement to protect themselves, their families and the community.
4. Even with effective vaccines (itself an assumption) the pandemic is likely to be with us for some years and research suggests a growing risk of further pandemics.

I have attached an editorial in a global health journal I wrote which provides evidence for the points just raised and the more general issue of non-healthcare workers deemed essential during pandemics.

Regards

[REDACTED]